

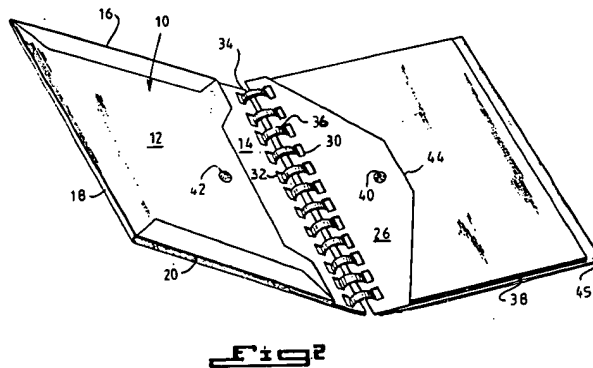
REMARKS

Applicant thanks Examiner Thurston for her attention to the above-referenced application in the Office Action of February 26, 2001 and respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendment and reconsideration of the Continued Prosecution Application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 12, 19, 22, 26-28 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Friedman (U.S. Patent No. 5,042,841). Examiner Thurston states each of the claim limitations is met by Friedman.

Examiner Thurston relies upon Friedman to disclose “a pocket insert comprising a base sheet (14), with a binding edge (32) bound to the binding, and a pocket sheet (12) with a smaller width, but at least 60 percent of the base sheet and the perimeter of which is defined by an attached edge (18) to the base sheet and a free section (24) to form a pocket opening extending substantially parallel and facing the binding (see figure 2).” [Paper 5, page 2]



However, applicant respectfully submits Friedman does not disclose the two layer structure, which precludes a three sheet thickness, as set forth in the present claims.

Claim 1

As amended, independent Claim 1 recites in part, “an attached edge section on the inner surface [of the pocket sheet] and a free edge section on the inner surface [of the pocket sheet] at least a portion of the attached edge section being adhered to the first surface of the base sheet along a plurality of seems and the free edge section being unattached to the base sheet to form a pocket opening along the free edge section between the first surface and the inner surface of the pocket sheet.”

That is, the surfaces which form the pocket, are also the surfaces of the respective pocket sheet and the base sheet which are connected.

In contrast, as seen in Friedman, portions of the base sheet 14 fold back over the outer surface of the pocket sheet 12 and are bonded to the outer surface of the back sheet 12 rather than the surface of the pocket sheet which defines the pocket.

Therefore, Friedman cannot sustain a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) of amended Claim 1.

As Claims 2-3, 6-9, 11, 12 and 19 depend from Claim 1 and include all limitations thereof, these claims also cannot be rejected by Friedman.

Claim 22

Amended independent Claim 22 recites in part, “a first edge of the inner surface [of the pocket sheet] attached to the first surface of the base sheet, . . . at least a portion of the second edge bracket of the inner surface being unattached to the first surface of the base for forming a pocket opening partially defined by the first surface [of the base].”

Thus, Claim 22 recites a pocket structure that is not met by Friedman. Friedman attaches the first surface of the base sheet 14 to the outer surface of the pocket sheet 12. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits the rejection of Claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102 in view of Friedman should be withdrawn.

Claim 26

Independent Claim 26 recites in part, “a method of binding a book employing “a base sheet of paper material having a planar first surface and a planar second surface . . . a pocket sheet of paper material having a planar inner surface and planar outer surface, the perimeter of the pocket sheet defined by an attached edge section of the inner surface and a free edge section of the inner surface, the attached edge section [the inner surface] being attached to the first surface of the base sheet and the free edge section [of the inner surface of the pocket sheet] being unattached to the base sheet to form a pocket with a pocket opening along the free edge section and the first surface of the base sheet.”

As Friedman discloses a structure having the base sheet affixed to the pocket sheet on the opposite surface of the pocket sheet which forms a pocket, applicant respectfully submits Claim 26 is in condition for allowance.

As Claims 27 and 28 depend from Claim 26 and include all limitations thereof, these claims are also in condition for allowance.

Claim 32

As amended, independent Claim 32 recites in part “a base sheet having a planar first surface, a planar second surface . . . a pocket sheet having a planar inner surface, a planar outer surface, an attached edge section on the inner surface and a free edge section on the inner surface, the attached edge section being attached to the first surface of the base sheet in the free edge section being unattached to the base sheet to form a pocket with a pocket opening along the free edge section and the first surface of the base sheet.”

As this structure having the respective attached surfaces of the base sheet and the pocket sheet also defining the pocket is not shown by Friedman, applicant submits Claim 32 is in condition for allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 5, 10, 13-18, 20, 21 and 23-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Freidman (U.S. Patent No. 5,042,841) in view of Lippeth (U.S. Patent No. 6,024,508).

Examiner Thurston states Friedman does not disclose the base sheet and the pocket sheet formed of separate sheets of paper material adhered to one another along the attached edge section, and along another long strip parallel to the third and fourth edges to separate the pockets to form two sheets. [Paper 5, Page 4]

However, the examiner states it would have been obvious to form the base sheet and pocket sheet of separate sheets of paper material adhered to one another since it has been held constructing a formerly integral structure in various elements involves only routine skill in the art. *Nerwin v. Erlichman*, 168 USPQ 177, 179.

However, Freidman expressly and repeatedly sets forth the base sheet attached to the outside surface of the pocket sheet.

To modify Freidman as proposed by Examiner Thurston would render Freidman inoperable for its intended use. That is, adhering a pocket sheet to the base sheet as set forth in the present claims would preclude gussets from being able to form the recited side walls (16, 18 and 20) of Friedman and provide a compartment depth equal to the size of the gussets as set forth in Friedman. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits there has been no prima facie showing of obviousness to modify or in the modified structure of Freidman.

Therefore, applicant respectfully submits Freidman and Lippeth cannot sustain rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 of these claims.

Newly added Claims

Claim 33

Claim 33 depends from Claim 32 and includes all limitations thereof, and thus applicant respectfully submits is in condition for allowance.

Claim 34

Independent Claim 34 recites in part, “a pocket insert for binding along a bound edge, comprising . . . a base sheet having a planar first surface and a planar second surface . . . a pocket sheet having a planar inner surface and a planar outer surface, a portion of the inner surface of the pocket sheet connected to the first surface of the base sheet to form a pocket having a pocket opening between the first surface of the base sheet and the inner surface of the pocket sheet, the pocket opening facing the binding edge.”

As none of the cited references disclose or suggest a pocket insert for binding along a pocket edge wherein the surfaces of respective base sheet and pocket sheet which form the pocket are joined together, applicant respectfully submits Claim 34 is in condition for allowance.

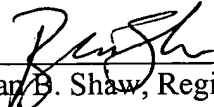
Claim 35

Claim 35 recites in part, “a pocket insert for operably passing through a printer or copier in sequence with a single sheet of paper, the pocket insert comprising . . . a base sheet having a single thickness . . . a pocket sheet having a single sheet thickness . . . an adhesive between the base sheet and the pocket sheet . . . the pocket insert having a maximum thickness equal to a combined thickness of the single thickness, the single sheet thickness and adhesive.”

As each of the cited references has a maximum thickness which is greater than a single layer of the base sheet, a single layer of the pocket sheet and any intermediate adhesive, applicant respectfully submits Claim 35 is in condition for allowance.

Therefore, applicant respectfully submits all the pending claims, Claims 1-35 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If, however, the examiner feels that any further issues remain she is cordially invited to contact the undersigned so that such matters may be promptly resolved.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: June 26, 2001.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE

In the Specification

On page 3, please replace the paragraph extending from line 7 through line 19, with the paragraph:

According to various preferred embodiment, the pocket sheet has a width at least half the width of the base sheet, more preferably at least 60 percent of the width of the base sheet. The base sheet and the pocket sheet may be formed of separate sheets of paper material that are adhered to one another, for example, along their edges, thus forming a seam having a thickness including only a single layer of the base sheet and a single layer of the pocket sheet or that may be formed of a single sheet of paper material with a fold line defining one of the edges of the sheets. This again results in the pocket insert being of a thickness that is limited to only two layers of the sheet material, either in a folded configuration or an independent base sheet and pocket sheet configuration. The pocket insert may include two pockets formed by the base sheet and the pocket sheet, with both pockets opening towards the base sheet first edge. The base sheet may be formed of a rectangular sheet of paper having a length of about 11 inches and a width of 8 to 8.5 inches, to approximate standard 8.5x11-inch paper, with the pocket sheet formed of rectangular sheet of paper having a length of about 11 inches and a width of 5 to 6 inches.

On page 4, please replace the paragraph extending from line 6 through line 22, with the paragraph:

Figure 2 illustrates a first embodiment of this invention. pocket insert 1 includes base sheet 10 of paper material and pocket sheet 20 of paper material. For this illustrated embodiment, each of the base sheet and the pocket sheet are formed of separate rectangular sheets of paper. Base sheet 10 includes a first edge 11, a second edge 12, a third edge 13 and a fourth edge 14. Second edge 12 is adjacent to the portion of base sheet 10 that will ultimately be bound to a binding. First edge 11 and second edge 12 define the width of the base sheet 10 and

third edge 13 and fourth edge 14 define a length of base sheet 10. Pocket sheet 20 includes a first edge 21, a second edge 22, a third edge 23 and a fourth edge 24. First edge 11 is contiguous with first edge 21, third edge 13 is contiguous with third edge 23, and fourth edge 14 is contiguous with fourth edge 24. Additionally, the two sheets are adhered to one another with strips of adhesive. More specifically, adhesive strip 31 is proximate to and along edges 11 and 21, adhesive strip 33 is proximate to and along edges 13 and 23 and adhesive strip 34 is proximate to and along edges 14 and 24. Thus, the base sheet 10 and the pocket sheet 20 are joined along seams defined by only a single layer of the base sheet and a single layer of the pocket sheet, wherein an adhesive may be disposed therebetween.

On page 5, please replace the paragraph extending from line 1 through line 7, with the paragraph:

The embodiment in Figure 2 further includes an adhesive strip 35 running widthwise to the two sheets and adhering the sheets together. Strip 35 extends between and parallel to edges 23 and 24 of pocket sheet 20, preferably about midway between these two edges. Again, the strip 35 provides a seam having a thickness that includes only a single layer of the base sheet 10 and a single layer of the pocket sheet 20. Accordingly, strip 35 separates pocket 40 from a second pocket 42, pocket 42 having a pocket opening 43. Both openings 41 and 43 face and are parallel to the binding section of base sheet 10 at edge 12.

On pages 5 and 6, please replace the paragraph extending from page 5, line 29, through page 6, line 2, with the paragraph:

Figure 3 illustrates an alternate embodiment of a pocket insert 1, where the base sheet 10 and the pocket sheet 20 are formed of a single sheet of paper folded along fold line 16. These two sheets are adhered to one another by adhesive strips 33 and 34 and, optionally adhesive strip 35. Accordingly, fold line 16 defines edges 11 and 21 of the base sheet and pocket sheet, respectively. As seen in Figure 3, third edge 23 of the pocket sheet and the third edge 13 of the base sheet are contiguous. That is, the edges of the respective sheets share a boundary or a touching.

On page 6, between line 11 and 12 please insert the following paragraph:

Referring to Figures 2-6, the base sheet 10 and the pocket sheet 20 are connected to form the pocket insert 1 having a thickness that includes only (i) a single layer of the base sheet, (ii) a single layer of the pocket sheet and (iii) any thickness attributable to an intermediate adhesive. That is, the pocket opening 41 is located on a given side of the base sheet 10, wherein the pocket sheet is connected to the base sheet on the same side as the pocket opening as seen in Figures 2-5.

In the Claims

1. (Twice Amended) A book comprising multiple pages and a pocket insert bound along a binding, wherein the pocket insert comprises:

(a) a base sheet of paper material comprising a binding edge bound to the binding, the base sheet having a planar first surface and a planar second surface; and

(b) a pocket sheet of paper material, the pocket sheet having a planar inner surface, a planar outer surface, and a perimeter defined by an attached edge section on the inner surface and a free edge section on the inner surface, at least a portion of the attached edge section being adhered to the first surface of the base sheet along a plurality of seams and the free edge section being unattached to the base sheet to form a pocket opening along the free edge section between the first surface and the inner surface of the pocket sheet,

wherein the base sheet and the pocket sheet[s] are arranged such that the pocket opening faces the binding.

2. The book of claim 1, wherein the pocket opening extends substantially parallel to the binding edge of the base sheet.

3. The book of claim 1, wherein the pocket sheet has a width smaller than a width of the base sheet but at least half the width of the base sheet.

4. The book of claim 3, wherein the pocket sheet has a width at least 60 percent of the width of the base sheet.

5. The book of claim 1, wherein the base sheet and the pocket sheet are formed of separate sheets of paper material that are adhered to one another along the attached edge section of the pocket sheet.

6. The book of claim 1, wherein the base sheet comprises:

a first edge,

a second edge opposed to the first edge and defining the binding edge, the first and second edges defining a width of the base sheet, and

third and fourth edges opposed to one another and disposed between the first and second edges, the third and fourth edges defining a length of the base sheet.

7. The book of claim 6, wherein the pocket sheet comprises:

a first edge attached to the base sheet,

a second edge opposed to the first edge, the first and second edges defining a width of the pocket sheet, at least a portion of the second edge being unattached to the base sheet for forming the pocket opening, and

third and fourth edges opposed to one another and disposed between the first and second edges, the third and fourth edges defining a length of the pocket sheet and being attached to the base sheet; wherein the pocket sheet has a shorter width than the base sheet.

8. The book of claim 7, wherein the base sheet and the pocket sheet are adhered to one another along their respective first edges, third edges and fourth edges.

9. The book of claim 7, wherein the first edges of the base sheet and the pocket sheet are parallel to the second edges of the respective sheets, and the third edges of the base sheet and the pocket sheet are parallel to the fourth edges of the respective sheets.

10. The book of claim 9, wherein the base sheet and the pocket sheet are further adhered to one another along a strip parallel to the third and fourth edges of the sheets, so as to separate two pockets formed between the sheets.

11. The book of claim 7, wherein the base sheet and the pocket sheet are formed of a single section of paper material.

12. The book of claim 11, wherein the single section is folded along a fold line defining the first edges of the base sheet and the pocket sheet.

13. The pocket of claim 7, wherein the pocket sheet first edge is attached to the base sheet with an adhesive proximate to the base sheet first edge, the pocket sheet third edge is attached to the base sheet with an adhesive proximate to the base sheet third edge, and the pocket sheet fourth edge is attached to the base sheet with an adhesive proximate to the base sheet fourth edge.

14. The book of claim 13, wherein the pocket sheet is attached to the base sheet with an adhesive along a strip extending widthwise between the third and fourth edges of the sheets.

15. The book of claim 14, wherein the widthwise strip separates two pockets formed by the base sheet and the pocket sheet, both pockets opening towards the base sheet first edge.

16. The book of claim 1, wherein the base sheet is formed of a rectangular sheet of paper having a length of about 11 inches and a width of 8 to 8.5 inches.

17. The book of claim 16, wherein the pocket sheet is formed of a rectangular sheet of paper having a length of about 11 inches and a width of 5 to 6 inches.

18. The book of claim 17, wherein the multiple pages are rectangular sheets having a length of about 11 inches and a width of about 8.5 inches.

19. The book of claim 1, further comprising a front cover and a back cover bound along the binding, the pages and pocket insert being disposed between the front and back covers.

20. The book of claim 19, further comprising supplemental media retained in the pocket.

21. The book of claim 15, further comprising supplemental media retained in both pockets.

22. (Twice Amended) A pocket insert defined by a base sheet of paper material and a pocket sheet of paper material, the base sheet comprising:

a first edge, a second edge opposed to the first edge for binding to a binder, the first and second edges defining a width of the base sheet, and third and fourth edges opposed to one another and disposed between the first and second edges, the third and fourth edges defining a length of the base sheet, the base sheet having a planar first surface and a planar second surface;

the pocket sheet having a planar inner surface and a planar outer surface, the pocket sheet comprising:

a first edge of the inner surface attached to the first surface of the base sheet, a second edge of the inner surface opposed to the first edge, the first and second edges defining a width of the pocket sheet, at least a portion of the second edge being unattached to the first surface of the base sheet for forming a pocket opening partially defined by the first surface, and third and fourth edges opposed to one another and disposed between the first and second edges, the third and fourth edges defining a length of the pocket sheet and being attached to the first surface of the base sheet; wherein the second sheet has a shorter width than the first sheet and a width at least half the width of the base sheet.

23. The pocket insert of Claim 22, wherein the base sheet and the pocket sheet are formed of separate sheets of paper material that are adhered to one another along their respective first edges, third edges and fourth edges.

24. The pocket insert of Claim 23, wherein the base sheet and the pocket sheet are further adhered to one another along a strip parallel to the third and fourth edges of the sheets, so as to separate two pockets formed between the sheets.

25. The pocket insert of Claim 22, wherein the base sheet is formed of a rectangular sheet of paper having a length of about 11 inches and a width of about 8 to 8.5 inches, and the pocket sheet is formed of a rectangular sheet of paper having a length of about 11 inches and a width of about 5 to 6 inches.

26. (Twice Amended) A method of binding a book comprising:

(a) assembling in a stacked arrangement a plurality of pages and a pocket insert, wherein the pocket insert comprises:

[(b)] a base sheet of paper material having a planar first surface and a planar second surface, the base sheet comprising a binding edge; and a pocket sheet of paper material having a planar inner surface and a planar outer surface, the perimeter of the pocket sheet defined by an attached edge section of the inner surface and a free edge section of the inner surface, the attached edge section being attached to the first surface of the base sheet and the free edge section being unattached to the base sheet to form a pocket with a pocket opening along the free edge section and the first surface of the base sheet; and

[(c)] (b) binding the pages and the pocket insert, wherein the pocket insert is bound along its binding edge and the base and pocket sheets are arranged such that the pocket opens towards the binding.

27. The method of Claim 26, comprising assembling a back and front cover in the stacked arrangement, and binding the covers, pages and pocket insert.

28. The method of Claim 27, wherein the back and front covers are arranged adjacent one another in the stacked arrangement, and the pocket insert is arranged at the top of the stacked arrangement during binding.

29. The method of Claim 28, further comprising inserting a diskette into the pocket insert following the binding operation.

30. The method of Claim 29, wherein the pages and pocket insert are assembled in the stacked arrangement by an automated collator.

31. (Once Amended) A method of making a series of books, each book including multiple pages, a pocket insert, and front and back covers bound along a common binding, comprising:

making multiple copies of individual pages by copying textual material on to the pages with a copier, and collating the copied pages in a collator of a copier to form stacked arrangements of copied pages for books in the series;

adding to each stacked arrangement a pocket insert, a front cover and a back cover; and binding the stacked arrangement with binders,

wherein the pocket insert comprises: a base sheet of paper material having a planar first surface and a planar second surface, the base sheet substantially corresponding in shape to the book pages and comprising a binding edge; and a pocket sheet of paper material having a planar inner surface and a planar outer surface, the perimeter of the pocket sheet [which is] defined by an attached edge section attached to the first surface of the base sheet and a free edge section unattached to the base sheet, to form a pocket with a pocket opening along the free edge section and the first surface of the base sheet;

wherein the pocket insert is bound along its binding edge such that the pocket opens towards the binding.

32. (Once Amended) A pocket insert configured to be bound along a binding, the pocket insert comprising:

(a) a base sheet having a planar first surface, a planar second surface and a binding edge selected to be bound to the binding; and

(b) a pocket sheet having a planar inner surface, a planar outer surface, [a perimeter defined by] an attached edge section on the inner surface and a free edge section on the inner surface, the attached edge section being attached to the first surface of the base sheet and the free edge section being unattached to the base sheet to form a pocket with a pocket opening along the free edge section and the first surface of the base sheet,

wherein the base sheet and the pocket sheet are arranged such that the pocket opening faces the binding[and the pocket insert has a total thickness less than a combined thickness of the base sheet, the pocket sheet and one of the base sheet and the pocket sheet].

Please add the following new claims:

33. The pocket insert of Claim 32, wherein a maximum number of pocket sheet thicknesses and the maximum number of base sheet thicknesses at any location of the pocket insert is one.

34. A pocket insert for binding along a bound edge, comprising:

(a) a base sheet having a planar first surface and a planar second surface, and a binding edge selected to be bound at the bound edge;

(b) a pocket sheet having a planar inner surface and a planar outer surface, a portion of the inner surface of the pocket sheet connected to the first surface of the base sheet to form a pocket having a pocket opening between the first surface of the base sheet and the inner surface of the pocket sheet, the pocket opening facing the binding edge.

35. A pocket insert for operably passing through a printer or a copier in sequence with a single sheet of paper, the pocket insert comprising:

- (a) a base sheet having a single thickness and a binding edge;
- (b) a pocket sheet having a single sheet thickness;
- (c) an adhesive between the base sheet and the pocket sheet to bond the base sheet to the pocket sheet to form a pocket with an opening facing the binding edge,

the pocket insert having a maximum thickness equal to a combined thickness of the single thickness, the single sheet thickness and the adhesive.



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